

Parliament Confused by
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Boa capture events pg 3

December is AIDS
awareness month



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Thursday, December 2, 2010

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Minister Dr. Richard Visser presents the initial steps of the National Plan



Integrated committee of sports leaders

Last week, Minister of Public Health, Sports and Drugs, Dr. Richard Visser, accepted a strategic plan devised by the 13 members of the National Sports Council to stimulate islanders to change and become more health conscious.

An athlete and wellness expert, the proposal of changing the national mindset to healthier lifestyles, including proper diet and athletic participation was his campaign strategy for the alleviation of

the enormous costs to the public health program.

Before election, Dr. Visser promoted these ideals of regular physical activity and proper diet with a personal program for youth, the Xtreme H Games, N that he is in office, he is striving to make these public policies.

On Tuesday evening, November 30, he unveiled the plan submitted by the NSC, with the policies and tools that will be deployed to implement

it, during a press conference at the Crystal Theater in Oranjestad.

On Tuesday evening, November 30, he unveiled the plan submitted by the NSC, with the policies and tools that will be deployed to implement it, during a press conference at the Crystal Theater in Oranjestad. An important point in the process of implementation: meetings with the Department of Education, which will result in regularly scheduled athletic

programs in the public schools; something that has been lacking to date. "Until now, there has been little government attention to promoting physical health in youngsters through the system," he informed the gathering. "Financing and regulated programs have been lacking, coaches have worked only on an unpaid, volunteer

basis. Sports was never considered relevant, so Aruba cannot be considered a "sporting nation." Only 5.9% of the women and 13% of the men are actively dedicated to some sort of sporting activity. In regards to the health of the nation, this is of serious concern."

Continued on page 5

AGA elects new Board of Directors



The Aruba Gastronomic Association (AGA) is pleased to announce its new Board of Directors, elected at its General Assembly held on November 30, 2010, held at the French Steak House at the Manchebo Beach Resort.

The boardmembers are:

Reimundo Barros, President (Gasparito Restaurant);

Francine Merryweather, Board Member (Driftwood Restaurant);

Arthur Kelly, Board Member (La Trattoria El Faro Blanco);

Erik van den Hengel, Board Member (Divi Resorts); and

Osyth Henriquez, Board Member (The Old Man & the Sea).

AGA and its 25 member restaurants look forward to another successful and productive year and welcome in the new Board of Directors, effective March 2011.

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Lawyer slams 'persecution' as Interpol hunts WikiLeaks chief



View of the WikiLeaks homepage taken in Washington

LONDON, England (AFP) - The lawyer of WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange said yesterday his client was being persecuted for publishing embarrassing US diplomatic cables as Interpol called for his arrest over rape accusations.

As Washington tried to calm new outbursts of anger from world leaders over the leaks, France-based Interpol said it had alerted all member states to arrest Assange, who is wanted in Sweden on allegations of sex crimes.

Assange's mother said she did not want her son "hunted down," while his lawyer in London suggested the alert issued by the global police body could be linked to the "bellicose" US reactions over the dumping of the classified documents.

"This is a persecution and not a prosecution," his attorney Mark Stephens said, without revealing the whereabouts of the elusive 39-year-old Australian.

In Islamabad, Pakistan's Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani called in the US ambassador for talks as WikiLeaks' drip-feed of 250,000 US cables sent fresh shockwaves around the diplomatic community.

Suggestions by US diplomats that Pakistan's nuclear weapons could fall into the

hands of terror groups "are misplaced and doubtless fall in the realm of condescension," foreign office spokesman Abdul Basit told AFP.

The anger stems from a 2009 cable in which then US ambassador Anne Patterson spoke of concerns that someone working in government nuclear facilities "could gradually smuggle enough material out to eventually make a weapon."

Meanwhile, Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin fired back after cables released by WikiLeaks described US Defence Secretary Robert Gates as saying that Russian democracy was in retreat.

Putin said Gates was "deeply misled" and warned Washington not to meddle in Russia's internal politics, according to the transcript of an interview with CNN.

In Turkey, Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan was furious at suggestions by US diplomats that he had secret accounts in Swiss banks and was involved in fraud, suggesting the cable's authors could face prosecution.

Argentina, meanwhile, said US cables that questioned President Cristina Kirchner's mental health were "shameful."

Parliament confused by Minister of Tourism?

Before approving it, the AVP parliamentarians made some proposals for change to the recently submitted government decree regarding Minister Oduber's submission of a budget request.

Much discussion has surrounded the Minister of Tourism's petition to Parliament for the approval of an additional sum for the international marketing of Aruba's tourism and for several events scheduled to take place next year. The discussion centers on whether or not the minister followed the prescribed legal process for petitions of this nature.

The question raised was, did the Minister, indeed and in fact, follow the correct procedure; and did he inform Parliament correctly concerning all the facts pertaining to his petition for additional funds.

The minister submitted several letters to Parliament requesting them to act with expediency and to expeditiously attend to his request for additional funds for his 2010 Tourism Budget. In his letters he indicated that his request has to do with commitments made for marketing and events scheduled for 2011.

Airports closed as Europe shivers in fresh snowfall

LONDON, England (AFP) - Heavy snowfalls forced some of Europe's busiest airports to close and wreaked havoc on roads and railways yesterday as an unseasonable cold snap swept the continent, claiming at least 15 lives.

Temperatures dropped to as low as minus 18 degrees Celsius (minus 0.4 degrees Fahrenheit) in some parts of Germany, while driving rain in Italy triggered the collapse of two Roman walls in Pompeii and flooding in Venice.



Juan David Yrausquin

During a recent public hearing, convened to address this issue, the minister assured Parliament in first instance, that contracts for these commitments did not exist.

Whereas, subsequently, in this same public hearing, he declared that said contracts did exist.

The Minister later clarified his statements with what he really meant to convey was that with respect to the marketing commitment for 2011 there was no contract agreement, but that a contract does exist for the scheduled events. This was followed by much discussion

whether there is a budget for said events or not.

The ensuing discussion was whether it is prudent to approve such a request after the signing of contracts.

According to article 14 of the Compatibility Law a minister is required to make his request for budgetary adjustments in advance and not after the fact.

Nonetheless, after consultation with the Consultative Counsel (Raad Van Advies), the AVP Parliamentarians proceeded to approve the minister's request.

One important note of caution was sighted and that was that a minister of government runs a high risk if he approves any commitment which is not formally budgeted. Clearly, the minister's intentions were accurate and that he acted in good faith. His statements did initially confuse Parliament.

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Suriname, Brazil sign migration pact

PARAMARIBO - Suriname and Brazil have signed an agreement aimed at regulating migration between the two countries.

Suriname's Foreign Minister Winston Lackin says the accord is a follow up on preliminary arrangements, following a violent clash between Brazilian migrants and Surinamese maroons on Christmas Eve last year.

Brazilians do not need a visa to travel to Paramaribo.

Unofficial statistics indicate there are as many as 30,000 Brazilians working mainly in Suriname's gold mining industry.

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Information concerning Boa capture events in Aruba

ORANJESTRAD -- The Taskforce Boa Constrictor, instated by the Government of Aruba, herewith makes an appeal to one and all to participate at the Boa capturing training events. These instruction events are designed to educate volunteers how to capture Boa constrictors with every day domestic tools such as brooms, gardening gloves and trash bags. The first national Boa constrictor capturing event will take place on December 12th, 2010. More information will be released shortly as to this event.

The instruction evenings are scheduled for:

Saturday, December 4th, 2010, from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Centro di Bario Playa Pabao.

Tuesday, December 7th, 2010, from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Centro di Bario Piedra Plat.

Thursday, December 9th, 2010, from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Centro di Bario Savaneta.

During these instruction events, volunteers will be trained how to capture the Boas as well as how to prepare for the actual capturing event. During these instruction sessions, information will also be given as to the locations where the national capturing event will take place. The Taskforce is counting on a large group of volunteers to give a hand to help protect Aruba's fauna. You can help make a difference with this very serious challenge. We thank you for your cooperation.

Minister Sevinger visits DIMAS, explains his new management to the employees

ORANJESTAD -- Last Friday, Minister of Infrastructure, Integration and Environment, Benny Sevinger, paid a courtesy visit to DIMAS, the department of integration, management and admission of immigrants. During the visit Minister Sevinger gave an explanation to the employees of his new management plan.

According to the minister there are reports stating that this new management is more economic for Aruba. He explained to the employees that he will not reorganize DIMAS - this was done very recently - but he will evaluate how the reorganization is working. This is because of the many complaints and critics received about the department and to improve and minimize those critics.

Minister Sevinger continued saying that he is aware of all the internal problems in the department, like the lack of personnel to attend clients accordingly and the space available which is not adequate for the personnel to give an optimal service or for the client.

This is why repair works are being done on the ex-Tax Collection building to move DIMAS completely in the new building together with the Department of Labor. According to the minister, the two departments must work together for a better control of permits given to immigrants.

Minister Sevinger finished saying that he thinks that DIMAS is doing a good job but there is always space for improvement.



Venezuela grapples with worst flooding in decades

CARACAS, Venezuela (AFP) - At least 25 people have been killed and thousands left homeless as torrential rains have caused the worst flooding in Venezuela in the last 40 years, officials said.

Authorities updated an earlier toll after four bodies were found in the capital, Civil Defense director Luis Diaz Curbelo told state-run television.

Defense Minister Carlos Mata said 33,000 people had sought refuge from the flooding, which has destroyed thousands of homes across a wide swathe of the north and central part of the country, including the capital Caracas.

Experts at the Central University of Venezuela said the flooding was the worst in 40 years.

President Hugo Chavez's government has issued emergency decrees for three states in the north -- Vargas, Miranda and the Capital District, which includes most of Caracas -- and has set up 259 emergency shelters across the country.

Mata said 10,000 troops have been deployed to help

provide aid.

Primary schools have been closed this week in 11 states, and the flooding has blocked key roads and shut down some airports and refineries in South America's largest oil producer.

Many Venezuelans are still haunted by a wave of massive landslides in 1999 in Vargas that killed some 10,000 people and swept entire villages away.

The annual rainy season in Central and South America has been especially heavy this year because of the climate phenomenon known as La Nina.

This year's flooding has claimed the lives of more than 130 people in Mexico and 400 in Central America.

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Colegio Arubano Oranjestad students hands out flyers, buttons and t-shirt For Violence without Motive campaign



The students of Colegio Arubano Oranjestad are continuously campaigning against violence without motive in our community. Recently, the students handed out flyers and buttons in the different neighborhoods among others, Savaneta, Noord, Playa, Santa Cruz and



Eagle. They also handed out flyers and buttons at different supermarkets.

The community can see different banners in hot spots on Aruba.

This way, the students hope their contribution will instill awareness on the alarming issue of violence without a motive, something that concerns everyone.

Aruba Tourism Authority honors Aruba Beach Club guests as Ambassadors of Goodwill of Aruba



Recently, Aruba Tourism Authority (ATA) honored Charles Weinberger and Lorraine Gutowicz of Pennsylvania as Goodwill Ambassadors of Aruba. They have been visiting our island for 25 consecutive years. Also honored was Mrs. Noreen Bean of New Hampshire for her 21st consecutive visit here.

The honorees state that what they like most of Aruba

is the nice climate, friendly people and the excellent restaurants. Mrs Beans says that every time she comes to Aruba she meets with her Aruban family.

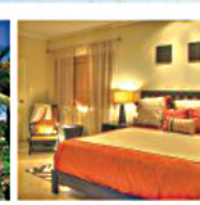
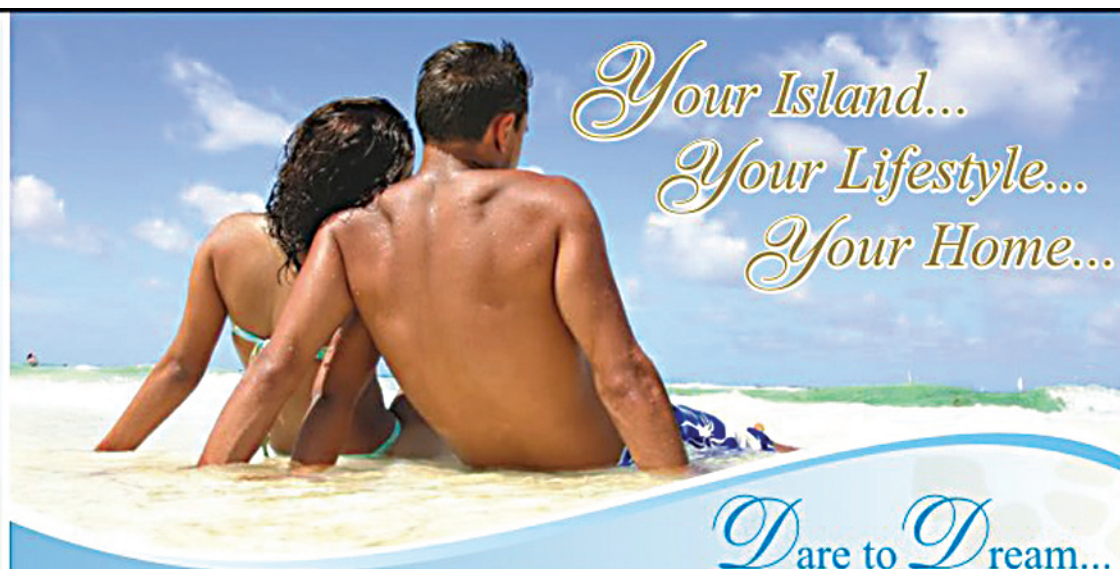
ATA rep Castro Perez gave them a beautiful certificate thanking them for their appreciation for Aruba. Also present at the honoring was Aruba Beach Club Executive Secretary Moraima Giel.

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Minister Dr. Richard Visser, presents the initial steps of the National Plan

Continued from page 1

The NSP will strengthen collaboration between sports organizations and professionalize them, formulate concrete protocols, and network with the private sector. The recent repeal of a tax law passed by the former administration which disallowed deductions for donations to foundations for amounts over 10,000 Aruban florins, it is believed will open the purse strings and encourage the necessary flow of financial support for sports organizations from the private sector.

The mission of the NSP is changing the national mentality towards physical activity, thus precipitating increased participation and a turnaround in the alarming rate of juvenile obesity and the resultant health problems of heart disease, diabetes and other related syndromes which will drastically burden the island's health system.

Additionally revealed at the Tuesday presentation was a video of Aruba's international superstar athlete, Sarah-Quita Offringa, who for the third year in a row has won the title



Sarah Quita's parents Ruud and Esther receive the first DVD

of PWA World Champion Women's Freestyle Windsurfer. Sarah-Quita set the professional windsurfing world on its ear for the past six years by being the youngest woman to ever win a gold medal in professional competition as well as achieve world champion status at only 17 in 2008, another historic record. She has successfully defended her title for the past two years and put

Aruba on the map internationally through countless articles published about her in dozens of languages. Her performance during world class competitions has made headlines around the world.

It is hoped that the regular screening of this informative profile of young Sarah-Quita will inspire island youngsters to strive for athletic distinction; her supportive parents,



Video of Sarah Quita in action

Ruud and Esther, were awarded the first DVD of the documentary.

Minister Dr. Visser also mentioned the plan includes exploring international sources of promoting sports programs; there are numerous organizations which will assist a small country with limited budget in facilitating the change needed to set their youth on a healthier path. The plan considers every aspect of necessary for success, including the legal as-

pects of doping, lengthening of schools days, and the installment of a mediation/arbitration body.

"This is a dynamic process that will be evaluated yearly to see if we are still on track to realizing our vision," he concluded. "We should keep striving for perfection, but not forget to enjoy the 'journey,' which is the process of constantly trying to improve."

By Rosalie Klein

Sci-Tech

iPad has real Xmas rival in Galaxy tablet



I-Pad (L), Galaxy tablet (R) in the near future".

HONG KONG (AFP) – Last Christmas anybody asked if they wanted a "tablet" probably thought they were being offered a pill to ease indigestion caused by a little bit of festive over-indulgence.

But this year, millions of people around the world will be glued to their iPad or other tablet computer instead of watching yet another re-run of a movie on TV.

Samsung Electronics says it has sold over 700,000 of its Galaxy Tab device in the six weeks since its launch and believes at least a million will be in people's hands by the end of the year.

But that's still miles behind the iPad, which only went on sale in South Korea -- Samsung's home turf -- for the first time on Tuesday.

Apple has sold more than eight million of the gadgets since it went on sale in April but could have sold more, experts say, were it not for problems making enough to meet demand.

Sony, BlackBerry maker Research In Motion (RIM), Toshiba, Hewlett-Packard, Motorola, Dell, Asus, Acer -- most of the big global brand names in the technology sector have a tablet computer on the market or in the pipeline.

Technology research firm Gartner last month said sales of tablet computers are expected to soar from nearly 20 million units this year to 55 million next year and over 208 million in 2014.

The Galaxy Tab has a seven-inch (18-centimetre) touch screen -- significantly smaller than the iPad's nearly 10-inch display. But Samsung says it will introduce "new tablets of different sizes

months, analysts say. "Tablets are basically new creatures," Young Park, a tech analyst for South Korea's Woori Investment and Securities, told AFP.

"So this is a brand new market which is set to grow substantially. It will be interesting to watch how the market evolves over the next year or so.

"As more and more tablet devices come onto the market, that will inevitably eat into Apple's lead." Sales of tablet computers, Hong Kong-based Young believes, will remain steady during the run up to Christmas but will not increase significantly.

The cheapest iPad costs 499 dollars in the US while the top model is priced at 829 dollars. Samsung's Galaxy Tab costs around 600 dollars, when bought without a subscription to a network.

Sales in tablet computers should see exponential growth in the next 12

Brazil's Lula pessimistic on climate talks

BRASILIA (AFP) – UN talks on climate change under way in Mexico "won't result in anything" because no major leaders turned up, Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva said Wednesday.

The get-together in Cancun "won't result in anything. No big leader is going, only environment ministers at best. We don't even know if foreign ministers are going. So there won't be any progress," said Lula, who himself decided last week not to travel to Mexico.

The Brazilian president told reporters he thought

pledges to finance the fight against deforestation in Latin America, Asia and Africa were "nebulous".

He stressed that last year, at a Copenhagen climate change conference that descended into a near-fiasco, he had pushed for the world's wealthy countries to foot the bill for environmental preservation but found them unwilling.

Brazil though, he said, would maintain its goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 39 percent over the next decade, and Amazon deforestation by 80 percent.

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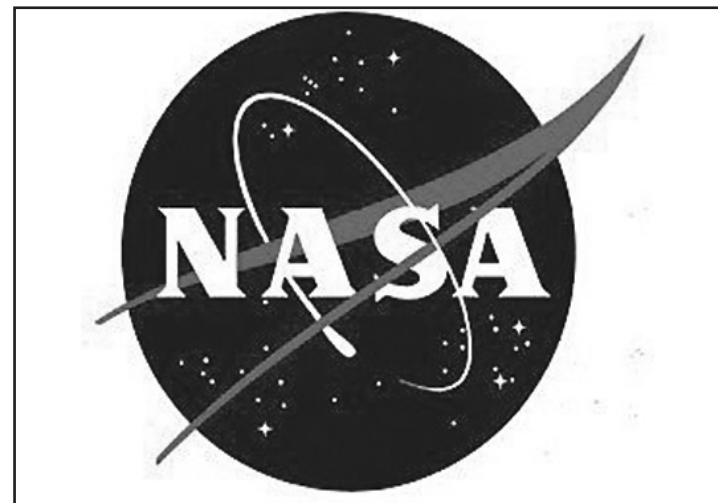
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NASA creates buzz with 'extraterrestrial' announcement



WASHINGTON (AFP) – The US space agency has created a buzz with its announcement of a press conference today to discuss a scientific finding that relates to the hunt for life beyond the planet Earth.

"NASA will hold a news conference at 2 pm EST (1900 GMT) on Thursday, December 2, to discuss an astrobiology finding that will impact the search for evidence of extraterrestrial life," it said on its website.

Space enthusiasts and believers in alien life took to the blogosphere in a flurry of speculation over the potential meaning of the announcement, though NASA declined to elaborate further.

Those scheduled to speak included Mary Voytek, who heads NASA's astrobiology program; Felisa Wolfe-Simon, a NASA astrobiology research fellow from the US Geological Survey; and Pamela Conrad, an astrobiologist at NASA's Goddard

Space Flight Center.

Astrobiology relates to the study of life in the universe, including its origin and evolution, where it is located and how it might survive in the future.

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Health & Living

Finger length predicts prostate cancer risk: study

PARIS (AFP) – Men whose index fingers are longer than their ring, or fourth, fingers run a significantly lower risk of prostate cancer, according to a study published Wednesday in the British Journal of Cancer.

The chances of developing the disease drop by a third, and even more in younger men, the study found.

"Our results show that relative finger length could be

used as a simple test for prostate cancer risk, particularly in men aged under 60," said Ros Eeles, a professor at the Institute of Cancer Research in Britain and co-author of the study.

Finger pattern could help identify which men should undergo regular screening, especially in combination with genetic testing or other risk factors such as a family history of the disease, she said.

From 1994 to 2009, Eeles and colleagues questioned more than 1,500 prostate cancer patients in Britain, along with 3,000 healthy control cases.

For more than half the men, the index was shorter than the ring finger. Compared to this group, men whose index and ring fingers were the same length -- 19 percent of the cohort -- had a similar prostate cancer risk.

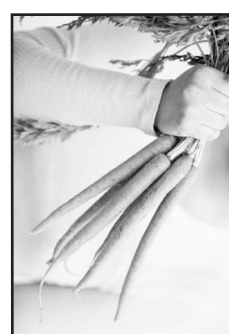
But when the index finger was longer, the risk of developing the disease dropped by 33 percent.

Men under 60 were 87 percent less likely to be in the cancer group.

The relative length of the two fingers in question -- set before birth -- appears to be a marker of different levels of sex hormones to which a baby is exposed in the womb, with less testosterone correlating with a longer index finger.

Earlier research has shown that testosterone promotes the growth of prostate cancer.

A carrot a day...

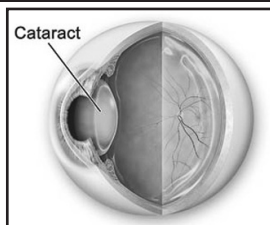


Start crunching away – studies have shown that a high carrot consumption can lower your risk of cancer by up to 40 percent. Researchers from the University of Newcastle in England believe that falcarinol, a compound that protects the vegetable from fungal diseases, may be the prime reason for this benefit.

Take action

Luckily, carrots are low in calories and can therefore be eaten freely. Include at least one portion of carrots (1/2 a cup of grated carrots) in your diet every day. Although fresh carrots are the healthiest, you can also steam or cook this veggie, whip it into a tasty smoothie or drink carrot juice as an alternative.

TIP: Symptoms That May Indicate Cataracts



A cataract occurs when the eye's lens becomes cloudy.

The U.S. National Library of Medicine says these visual warning signs could indicate cataracts:

- * Seeing double.
- * Having increased sensitivity to glaring light.
- * Seeing a halo that surrounds light.

- * Having vision that appears cloudy, blurry or seeing as if your eye were covered in a film.
- * Having trouble seeing in the dark or without bright light.
- * Not seeing colors sharply.
- * Having difficulty differentiating shapes and colors from a background.

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There is a particularly lovely beach on Aruba with a gorgeous vista right near the airport, known always as Surfside; for some time now the building adjacent to it has gone through a string of owners seeking an appropriate identity for this special place, and it looks like it has finally found it with the opening of the Nikky Beach Club Aruba.

Our investigative team from THE MORNING NEWS went down to have a look at this latest venture, and we found just the kind of authentically tranquil, Caribbean ambiance vacationers seek when

visiting Aruba. New owner Hans and his GM Lub have completely renovated and redesigned the venue to fully showcase this charming location while providing a very reasonably priced menu and bar.

The official arrival of holiday season has a number of company party planners scrambling at the last minute for a venue for their end of the year festivities; if you have a group to small for the larger resorts and are looking for a unique and charming location with an expert gourmet chef, the new Nikky Beach will very

likely come to the rescue. Contact Lub to arrange a customized holiday party for your group to fit your budget, including free-flowing mimosas.

This month they are hosting a number of special public parties on Saturday nights, starting with the 10th anniversary bash of the I LUV MUZIKA group this coming Saturday, December 4, which should be a blast. Until arrival of Christmas there will be more such events, and they will crown their month with a special holiday dinner on December 25 and 26.

Hans and Lub have dubbed Sunday's at Nikky Beach "Rehab Day," when they provide a particularly pleasant ambiance with popular local and international DJ's from noon on and \$3 Mimosas all day long. During the traditional Happy Hour time slot, they feature live music with top local groups specializing in the soft sound of the islands.

When first investigating Nikky Beach we discovered extremely interesting items on the menu at very moderate prices; their chef offers an extensive fusion selection that re-



veals expertise in several notable cuisines coupled with a nice variety that will please everyone's mood. For lunch and snacking you find a varied choice of classic salads, favorite local treats, pastas and gourmet sandwiches. Kitchen is open from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. serving breakfast, lunch and dinner.

One last interesting tidbit: Lub explained they offer a customized Departure Day Package that allows vacationer to stow their luggage, enjoy all their amenities, choose a meal, drinks or both and they will personally guarantee getting you to the airport in plenty of time for the flight. Changing

rooms and showers let you swim and beach it until departure time and you can linger without rushing, as the airport is only 2 minutes away; no worries about fighting traffic or delays. "Why should you end your stay on a hurried and harried note?" asks Lub. "You can join us for the day and keep that relaxed island ambiance up to the last minute; it doesn't have to end at check out." The package requires reservations, which can be made by calling 582-0153 or contact them through their website: www.nickybeach-aruba.com.

by Rosalie Klein

Juan Ruiz fetes 30 years of service with SETAR N.V.



Recently, Juan Ruiz accomplished 30 years of service with Aruba's telecommunication company, SETAR N.V. To commemorate this important day Mr. Ruiz treated his colleagues of the Warehouse and the management team to a nice meal. They all came together to congratulate him and spent a nice time together.

SETAR N.V. Director Mr. Roland Croes handed Mr. Ruiz the customary envelope. Mr. Ruiz also received a special gift from the Sector Management Financial Affairs executive, Mr. Tino Nicolaas.

Juan Ruiz, better known as Juancho, started his career on November 1, 1980 with Telefoondienst as Technical Supervisor. During the years he experienced many changes on his job. In 1982, the centralization of the field warehouse at Seroe Blanco and the modernization of the telephone network from 1980 to 1985, which was a big investment of the government of the island territory of Aruba.

From 1986 on, Mr. Ruiz saw big projects realized by SETAR N.V., among others the Intel center building to-

gether with the International center and ground station, which enabled Aruba to communicate directly with different international countries. He also occupied different managerial posts, among others, Purchase & Warehouse supervisor and Purchase & Logistic Supervisor. On July 1, 2003 the telecommunication company became SETAR N.V. and Mr. Ruiz occupied the post of Purchase & Logistic Supervisor.

Mr. Ruiz likes to walk with his wife Doris Ruiz-Lopez and his dog - to keep himself in shape. He also cooperates with the Parish of Noord. His primary advice to everyone working in the telecommunication sector: When you start your day's work, you must have patience and a goal to work within the company. If you want to work in this branch you must be willing to learn and study continuously. There is endless information on the internet. The will to learn or read more about telecommunication must come from yourself in order to improve your productivity."

"In your work you en-



counter many challenges, but if we give our maximum, we

will certainly succeed," Mr. Ruiz stated.

Twenty Plus Years 'Planting' Culture!



After dedicating more than 20 years to the UNOCA foundation, Drs. Pancho Geerman decided to write a book which he titled:

UNOCA, Twenty Plus Years of Planting Culture. Current president of

UNOCA, Mrs. Nilda Koolman presented the first copies of Geerman's book to Governor Fredis Refunjol, Minister of Culture, Michelle Hooyboer-Winklaar, and member of Parliament, Mr. Andy Lee.

The presentation of Pancho Geerman's book was held on the patio of the UNOCA office complex in the company of many well known Culture leaders. They all gathered together to participate in the festive occasion.

As former director of UNOCA, Pancho Geerman reminisced about days past and the present situation. He remembers the days when there were only volunteers helping at UNOCA. But, he remarked, thanks to their assistance and many years of dedicated service, we are all reaping the fruit of their labor today.

The book is a production of several persons. Pancho Geerman as author, with Alice Van Romondt as editor, and graphic designs and illustrations by Irene Peterson.

Alice Van Romondt served on the first board of directors at the founding of the UNOCA Foundation. She dedicated much time and energy to UNOCA. She was full of praise and appreciation for all who worked in the past for UNOCA, and for those presently laboring to continue the good work.

Minister Michelle Hooyboer-Winklaar remarked that one of her reasons for getting involved in politics was because of culture and what she believes she can do to promote and solidify our culture. She is convinced that there is so much more we need to do to improve on our cultural heritage. Foundations like UNOCA provide our government officials the needed stimulus and energy to work towards a more vibrant culture.

The festive evening was replete with music by Tipico Los Arubeños, and our famed soloist Tica Giel.

New York man jumps to save subway rider - and get to work

NEW YORK — A New York grocery clerk, fearing he might be late for work, jumped onto city subway tracks to haul an injured passenger to safety after he fainted, authorities said.

The victim was taken to a local hospital after his rescue on Sunday by Carlos Flores, who said he leaped to save

the man so he would not be late for work.

"I was thinking, if he gets hit I can't go to work. It's Sunday. I can't miss out. It's a time-and-a-half day," Flores was quoted as saying in the New York Daily News.

A Metropolitan Transportation Authority spokeswoman said the incident,

while heroic, was dangerous.

"We do not recommend that people jump down to the roadbed," spokeswoman Deirdre Parker said.

The subway's third rail pumps 600 volts of electrical current, and climbing back onto the platform from the tracks is much harder than it looks, she said.

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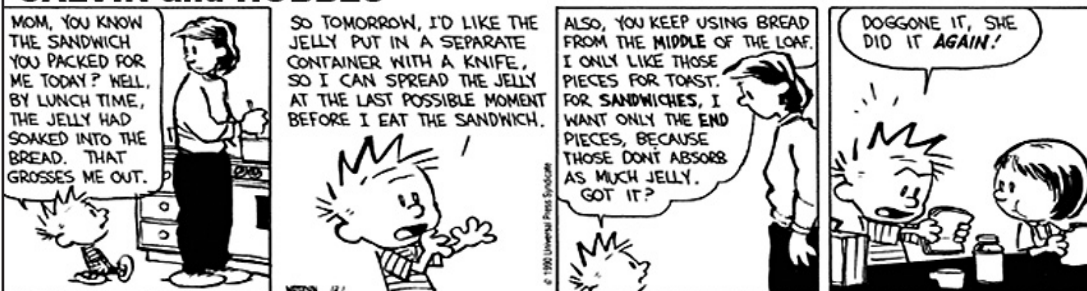
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• PLAY ON •

ACROSS

1. Flop
5. Drinkers
9. "the night..."
13. Silk-cotton tree
17. Medley
18. Thesaurus man
19. Street show
21. Marsh bird
22. Male voice
23. Musical play
24. Epic poem
25. Trieste wine measure
26. "Uncle Ned" and "Beautiful Dreamer"
30. "Night of Love"
31. Weird Sisters
32. Bring forth, as a lamb
33. Those against
35. Elector
36. Actor Woody
38. Annex
40. Fresher
42. Robinson, for one
43. Clarinet
46. Brings up
49. Pip
51. Louis XIV, e.g.
52. Father

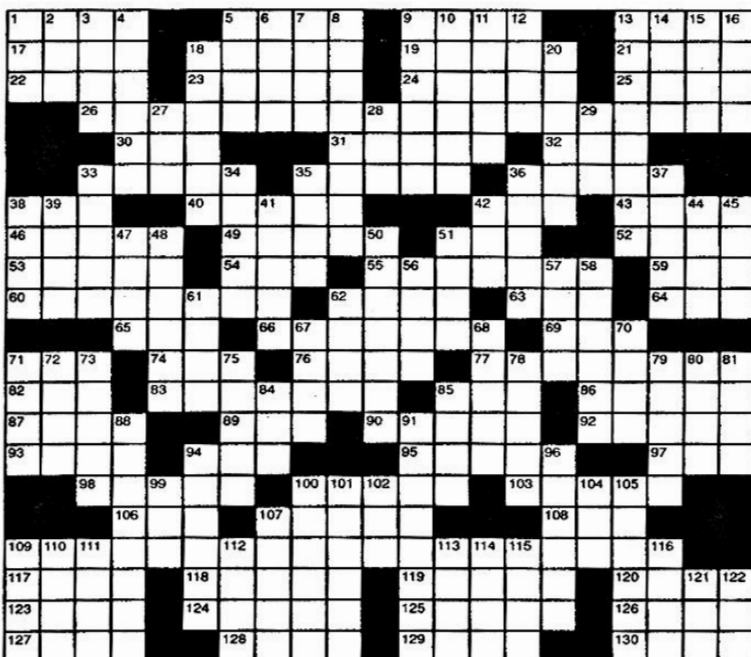
DOWN

53. Pago Pago's locale
54. "High Hopes" tree mover
55. Buckeyes
59. Ad
60. "Music Man" instrument
62. Purchases
63. "By the Beautiful"
64. Fast way to get there
65. Through
66. Krupa, for one
69. Newt
71. City trains
74. Some are classified
76. Seaport in Algeria
77. Actress Lori
82. College English class, for short
83. Matins division
85. "Flying Down to"
86. Treaty org.
87. Yugoslav
89. Can. province
90. Exploit
92. Exams
93. Continent

94. Skill
95. Curves
97. Chop suey sauce
98. Leontyne
100. "I'll Never Again"
103. She rode on a bicycle built for two
106. Adherent
107. Strainer
108. Winter hazard
109. "Eroica" and "Pastoral"
117. Involved with
118. Peals
119. Vigilant
120. Lansbury musical
123. Fish-eater
124. Wrap
125. Squirrel's homes
126. Hoople's oath
127. Laborer
128. War god
129. Poet Ogden
130. Lairs

DOWN

1. Hope
2. Palm leaf
3. Err
4. Rock group
5. Jr.-to-be
6. Curved molding
7. Sea swallow
8. Connecticut town
9. "Valse"



10. Cronkite
11. 3/21-4/19
12. Cause withering
13. 15 Down et al.
14. Deserve
15. Harry Lillis
16. First word of "Greensleeves"
18. Deceive
20. Famous lemons
27. Adjective suffix
28. Horse food
29. Frivolous gal of song
33. "Remember the"
34. City on the Meuse
35. Air duct
36. Some songs
37. Diamond and Young
38. Formerly, formerly
39. Shakespearean king
41. Decreased in strength
42. Cow sound
44. Troublemaker
45. Obligation
47. Gambol
48. Ancient native of Arabia
50. "Great Day" composer
51. Singer Stevens
56. Song of praise
57. "All You Is Love"
58. Most secure
61. Calendar of masses
62. U.S. VP
67. Disorderly retreat
68. Downpours
70. "Lemon"
71. Lanchester
72. "Little White"
73. Bare
75. Orchestrate
78. Famous
79. Fresh
80. Stevenson's "Prince"
81. Prying
84. Explosive inits.
85. Stratagem
88. Male voice
91. German composer
94. Board treaders
96. They come marching in
99. Kabibble
100. Unwed
101. Unpleasant situations
102. College vine
104. Here, to Pierre
105. Appeared
107. Man who lives in a casa
109. Anger
110. Slaughter
111. Thames town
112. Life: Latin
113. Entreaty
114. Dame Myra
115. Straight: prefix
116. "Parsley, I Love"
121. The "I Love"
122. Ames et al.

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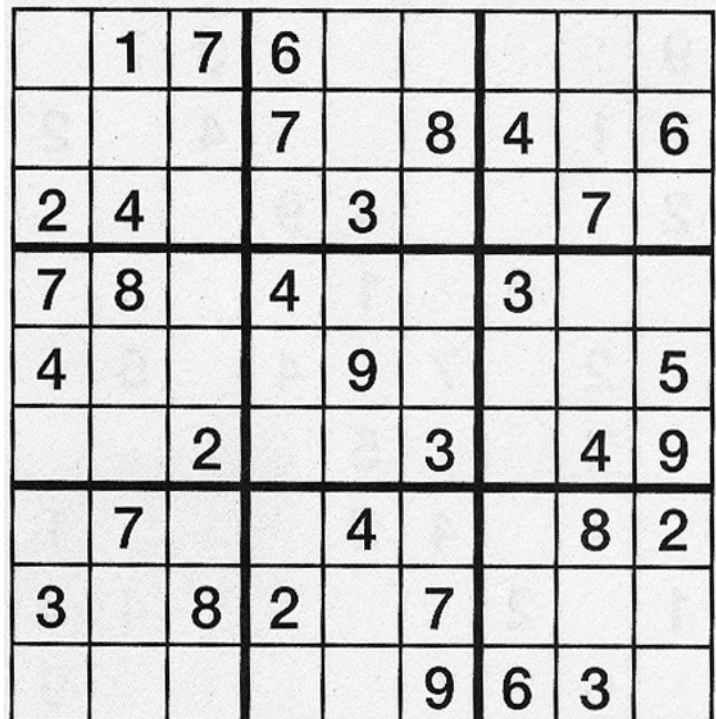
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Sudoku



SOLUTION

4	8	9	6	8	9	7	2	1
7	9	6	2	1	2	8	9	5
2	8	1	9	7	5	2	6	4
6	7	8	5	2	1	2	9	9
9	9	2	2	6	8	1	5	7
1	2	5	9	9	7	6	8	2
8	2	9	1	5	6	9	7	2
9	1	7	8	2	2	5	6	9
5	6	2	7	9	9	2	1	8

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9



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Finance



European aircraft maker Airbus said yesterday it will upgrade its A320 medium-haul workhorse with new, more efficient engines as it prepares to face competition from Chinese and Canadian manufacturers. (AFP PHOTO)



Containers wait to be loaded on a ship at the harbour in the northern German city of Hamburg. The value of world merchandise trade grew 18 percent in the third quarter, the World Trade Organization has said, noting however that the pace of growth slowed from the second quarter. (AFP PHOTO)



A Belgian court has fined Citibank 165,000 euros (216,000 dollars) after concluding that it used "false advertising" to sell Lehman Brothers investment products without warning clients of risks. Citibank sold 128 million euros worth of Lehman Brothers bonds to some 4,100 clients in Belgium. These bonds became worthless after the collapse of Lehman, the trigger for the world's deepest downturn since the 1930s Depression, in September 2008. (AFP PHOTO)

European markets, euro recover on US, China data

LONDON, England (AFP) - European stock markets and the euro bounced back yesterday, supported by strong US and Chinese data as bond market pressures eased on financially vulnerable eurozone states.

Sentiment was also supported by Spain's disclosure of new measures to cut costs and revive the country's ailing economy amid fears Madrid too might have to follow the lead of Greece and Ireland and seek outside financial help.

The turnaround came after two days of turmoil after an announcement Sunday the EU and the IMF would provide Ireland with 85 billion euros (111 billion dollars) to shore up its banking sector and meet its debt obligations.

That gesture intensified speculation that Ireland's fellow eurozone financial stragglers, Portugal and Spain, could also need a bailout in due course.

But yesterday, the interest rate, or yield, on 10-year Portuguese and Spanish bonds narrowed, suggesting an easing in tension.

ing in tension.

European stock markets posted solid gains, with London's FTSE 100 index rising 2.07 percent to close at 5,642.50 points. In Paris, the CAC 40 added 1.63 percent to 3,669.29 points while in Frankfurt the DAX jumped 2.66 percent to 6,866.63 points.

Elsewhere Madrid soared 4.44 percent, Milan 2.41 percent and the Swiss Market Index 1.54 percent.

In Madrid, Socialist Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero announced that the government would sell 30 percent of the state lottery and offload a bigger stake in the main airport operator in addition to scrapping a 420-euro (548-dollar) monthly subsidy to unemployed workers who have lost their rights to benefits.

US stocks also advanced, snapping a three-day losing streak on eurozone debt concerns after much better-than-expected US employment data lifted sentiment.

"All of the fear and loathing of the past few days has appar-

ently fallen by the wayside this morning," said Patrick O'Hare of Briefing.com.

The blue-chip Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 1.77 percent at mid-day as the tech-heavy Nasdaq added 2.00 percent.

Investors in both Europe and the United States were also heartened by data showing an expansion of Chinese manufacturing activity, even though it increased the chances Beijing would raise interest rates in an effort to battle inflation.

On the currency market the euro firmed to 1.3072 dollars from 1.2985 dollars late Tuesday, after climbing at one point above 1.31 dollars.

The dollar meanwhile traded at 84.16 yen, up from 83.63 yen.

The single currency, in addition to drawing strength from the US and Chinese data, continued to benefit from remarks on Tuesday by European Central Bank head Jean-Claude Trichet, who insisted that Ireland and Greece were both solvent.

GM, Ford, Chrysler US sales soar in November

NEW YORK CITY (AFP) - General Motors yesterday reported US car sales for November jumped 11.4 percent from a year ago in a month marked by GM's historic return to Wall Street as it sheds government ownership.

Ford also reported US sales rose 24.3 percent in November from the same period in 2009, with 147,338 vehicles sold.

"Ford's broad range of high-quality, fuel-efficient vehicles is driving one of our best years ever and positioning Ford to deliver improved results in the future," said Ken Czubay, Ford vice president of sales and marketing.

GM, the largest US automaker, said sales of its four brands -- Chevrolet, Buick, GMC and Cadillac -- totaled 168,704 vehicles in November, up 11.4 percent from November 2009.

"Each brand came to the party in November," said Don

Johnson, US sales operations vice president.

"These results show that our brands continue to gain momentum with consumers who want stylish, fuel-efficient vehicles," he said in a statement.

GM returned to public trading on November 18, marking a dramatic turnaround for the embattled company.

The Detroit, Michigan-based automaker was forced into bankruptcy protection in June 2009 amid massive debts and a 50-billion-dollar government bailout.

The initial public offering of shares, which raised more than 23.7 billion dollars, lowered the government stake in the company below 50 percent and recouped 11.7 billion dollars for US taxpayers.

Chrysler, which was also salvaged by a massive taxpayer-funded bailout, also reported US sales rose 17

percent in November from last year, in the eighth straight month of year-to-year sales increases.

Chrysler sold 74,152 vehicles last month, it said.

GM shares were up two percent and Ford stocks jumped 3.5 percent following their monthly US sales reports.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

ABOR	PTAS	MACH	LAPFUL
DELIRIOUS	OSHA	ORELSE	
OLDMILNESTREAM	BRAYED		
NIS	PAIR	REARS	OASIS
ANTHERS	PINOT	VEN	
IDEAL	HALEOFANOTE	GPS	
SARPY	CAD	ORAD	CLU
	WAIT	HASTEN	AHUM
AMT	WILDEOATES	CLAMP	
LAICIZES	SCHMO	GROUP	
ARRIVES	SIKES	PLAICES	
SEVEN	SERIN	DEEPESS	
DUDES	CRISWOLFE	RTE	
APAT	CARESS	ITES	
FIN	AARE	SEA	MAAMS
TAD	STEELE	MILLS	ANTON
ATT	INAND	TARTARE	
HIMOS	ANTIC	IASI	NOA
BAKERY	PAINE	INTHENECK	
THEISIS	OGRE	FREELANCE	
UNNEAT	DEER	SONS	ODOR

Linda's Pancakes and Pizza place, delicious meals for breakfast, lunch and dinner



Plain Pancake

Linda's Pancake and Pizza place, located at Palm Beach 6D, Noord (on the right side of Valero gas station) offers patrons the most delicious Dutch pancakes and pizza's with a Dutch twist.

Open from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., and only five minutes away from the high-rise resorts, Linda's is the perfect eatery for the whole family.

Seeing the popularity of this quaint small eatery, THE MORNING NEWS decided it

is just mmm... good. The saté... out of this world!"

Besides the original plain pancake, Linda's specialty is pancakes with walnuts, Brie and honey; pancakes with banana and mango or a Dutch favorite: pancake with apple and bacon.

All their pizzas are made with Dutch Gouda cheese and different toppings making it richer in taste.

When it comes to saté, one has to say that the secret is in



Olgita, Ilhan and Iyanla enjoying a scrumptious meal

was time to find out just how good Linda's really is, by sending out a team of taste testers.

Olgita, joined by her two kids ordered a little of everything while the kids roamed around freely, enjoying the afternoon.

The meal started out with Linda's original plain – to die for – Dutch pancakes, followed by pizza, where instead of using mozzarella Linda has created a unique twist to the traditional Italian dish by using Dutch Gouda cheese. Adding a local favorite which could not stay off the table they also sampled the delicious saté (chicken, pork or beef on a wooden skewer) with peanut sauce (Indonesian influence on local food). For the finish the team (adults only) had one cup of Linda's delicious Espresso.

The team had this to say: "Superb! There are no words to describe just how delicious the pancakes are and the pizza

the sauce. Not everybody can make that perfect peanut sauce, but Linda, being an expert in the kitchen has cooked up one of the finest peanut sauces on the island, making this original Indonesian dish extra special.

If you want a specially prepared pancake or pizza, Linda is right there -- just for you -- in her kitchen.

"For those who are allergic to gluten I have a special pancake mix, gluten free," Linda stated to THE MORNING NEWS team.

Linda's Pancakes and Pizza also offers fried eggs and homemade soups.

"We also serve American coffee," Linda concluded.

With a complete menu, filled with delicious pancakes, pizzas and more, Linda's pancake and Pizza place is the perfect casual restaurant for all in the family.

For more information contact Linda's at 586-3378.

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Aruba is one of the most beautiful islands in the Caribbean, having long stretches of sugar white beaches, where you can take long peaceful walks or dive in the cleanest of waters found in the world.

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cellent nightclubs and bowling club.

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These fabulous loft apartments are more spacious, with the sleeping area upstairs on the loft. All apartments are completely furnished with cable TV. The open kitchen is very spacious and equipped with stove top, refrigerator, toaster/oven and coffee maker (microwave optional). The apartments are air-conditioned, with daily maid service, private parking and a mini market.

The laundry is accessible to all guests 24 hours a day. There is a large fresh water swimming pool, with a pool deck and beach chairs, where you can relax any time of the day. At the reception, the friendly staff is always ready to attend you with a smile.

Quality Apartments is situated at the Schotlandstraat 70 in Oranjestad. For reservations or information readers may call at tel: (297)-582-0697 or (297)-583-7484, Fax: (297)-583-5203. Office hours are Monday thru Friday: 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., on Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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Sinterklaas makes a surprise visit to the elderly of Maris Stella



Sinterklaas, braving the rain on Aruba, decided to make a surprise appearance at Huize Maris Stella, the home for the elderly in Savaneta. He brought two cheerful Zwarte Pieten with him, who doled out pepernoten to the happy inhabitants of the home and its staff. Dressed in his customary red, velvet robe and wearing his mitre, the Sint had quite a lot of names written in his big book. These were the people who re-

ceived small gifts and sweets for having been so exceptionally well behaved this past year. Although his visit to Maris Stella was early (Sinterklaas' birthday is on December 5), Sinterklaas was welcomed with songs and a huge cake.

Photos show Sinterklaas and his Zwarte Pieten in action last Tuesday morning. That is also the day that the Clown Doctors of Aruba pay a visit to the Maris Stella home.



Anti-whaling activists launch 'Godzilla' speedboat



The Sea Shepherd Conservation Society's newest vessel "Gojira," as the giant monster Godzilla is known in Japan, some 11 months after its futuristic Ady Gil craft was lost in a high-seas clash with whalers.

SIDNEY, Australia -- Militant anti-whaling campaigners said yesterday they had launched a new "Godzilla" speedboat to chase Japanese harpooners hunting the giant mammals in Antarctic waters.

The Australia-flagged 33-meter (100-foot) stabilized monohull is imposing without being overly heavy, and will be fast enough to chase the Japanese, the group's Australian director Jeff Hansen said.

"We are not going to release the speed (it can reach), we are just saying that it is going to go faster than a harpoon ship," he told AFP.

"This vessel is purely to be used for its speed advantage."

The black Gojira, which previously completed a round-the-world voyage in less than 80 days under the name Cable & Wireless Adventure, will join veteran Sea Shepherd ships the Bob Barker and the Steve Irwin on their annual southern hemisphere summer pursuit of the Japanese whalers.

Hansen said the two larger boats would leave Tasmania today, with the Gojira catching up with them several days later.

Sea Shepherd believes its activists will be leaving on the annual mission -- which usually extends until about March -- ahead of the Japanese boats for the first time ever.

"We're in a very, very good position right now," Hansen said. "We're the best prepared we've ever been."

Tensions ran high last season after a January 6 collision with a Japanese harpoon ship sliced off the front of the Ady Gil, a New Zealand-flagged

trimaran.

A New Zealand inquiry found both vessels were at fault over the incident, which occurred as Sea Shepherd boats harassed Japanese har-

on saving the whales.

Australia strongly opposes Japan's whaling and has started action against Tokyo in the International Court of Justice over its continued



Two caught fin whales are pictured in 2009 on the western coast of Iceland.

pooners and resulted in the Ady Gil sinking.

Hansen said Sea Shepherd had learned valuable lessons from the experience, adding that he hoped having an Australia-flagged ship involved in the campaign would push more action from Canberra

slaughter of the animals.

Japan hunts whales in southern waters around Antarctica using a loophole in a 1986 international moratorium that allows "lethal research," but does not hide the fact that the meat is later sold in shops and restaurants.

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Japan pitches mind-blowing high-tech 3D World Cup

ZURICH (AFP) - Japan promised a high tech marvel in its final pitch to host the 2022 World Cup on Wednesday by paving 400 stadiums around the world with 3D flat screens to show life size matches thousands of miles away.

"I have to admit that the idea of this blows my mind away," admitted Japan 2022 bid committee chief executive Kohzo Tashima.

"Three hundred and sixty million people could have a full stadium experience of matches; that's over 100 times the number of spectators at the 1994 World Cup in the United States," he told FIFA's executive committee.

Backed by Sony chairman Howard Stringer, Japanese officials mirrored the promise of an electronics revolution for the next generation that would eliminate language problems in Japan by providing tiny real-time interpretation machines and constant connection to palm sized screens.

But the highlight of the presentation a day before the grandees of world footballs' governing body -- some of whom are in their 80s -- choose the hosts, was the idea of paving whole pitches including Wembley or the leg-

endary Maracana stadium with flat screens.

They would project real-time hologram-like three dimensional images of the game in life size and real time to crowds around the world.

"Our nation's bid is not about one nation hosting the games or two nations, but 208 regions and FIFA nations hosting the game together," said Junji Ogura, chairman of the Japanese bid and a member of FIFA's executive committee.

"Create a World Cup for the next generation to bring 208 smiles to the world," he urged his fellow footballing officials.

Although the idea seemed far fetched, Stringer insisted it was as realistic as the steps taken when the Walkman portable music player, home video cameras, or PlayStation were launched.

"The truth is the world is changing faster than any of us can understand," the Sony chief explained.

"I can tell you that this is not science fiction, in 2022 this will be science fact," Stringer insisted, dressed in a Japan football jersey.

Japanese sports minister Kan Suzuki said the government was ready to give "absolute guarantees" not only for the political and financial

pledges, but also the technological promise.

Ogura said: "The challenge for FIFA, for football, is to identify the next big idea."

Japan is vying with more traditional bids from Australia, the United States, Qatar, and South Korea to host the 2022 tournament.

Ex-NBA player Marbury switches teams in China

BEIJING (AFP) - Former NBA bad boy Stephon Marbury has parted acrimoniously with yet another employer, splitting with his team in northern China to sign with another Chinese squad, state media said Wednesday.

The former NBA all-star, who resurrected his career by coming to China earlier this year, signed a contract Tuesday with the Chinese Basketball Association's Foshan Dragon Lions, the official China News Service said.

That came after the Shanxi Zhongyu Brave Dragons last week released Marbury, 33, on a sour note, the report said, with the team citing salary "reasons" and Marbury's inability to guarantee his fitness to play.

Marbury meanwhile accused the team of "lying to him and Shanxi's fans", the report said, giving no details.

AFP was unable to immediately contact the teams, Marbury, or the CBA for comment, and none of the parties appears to have made a public statement.

Marbury -- the first player to appear in both an NBA and a CBA All-Star game -- is by far the biggest foreign star ever to play in China.

He joined Shanxi in early 2010 to revive his playing career after falling out with his NBA teams and to market his "Starbury" brand of basketball shoes.

Shanxi said in July that Marbury had agreed to stay three more years with the team.

Instead, the ex-New York Knick will now play for Foshan, based in the city of the same name in the southern province of Guangdong.

The team last season played as Shaanxi Lithium Energy, based in the northern province of Shaanxi, but moved to Guangdong after a change of ownership this summer, China News Service said.

Ronaldo has ankle injury - club



MADRID (AFP) - Real Madrid's Portuguese international Cristiano Ronaldo, who missed a training session on Wednesday, is suffering from an ankle injury, the Spanish club said.

"Cristiano Ronaldo was subjected to a medical check before today's training session. Results show an inflamed tendon on his right ankle," it said.

"The player will follow a

medical treatment and have physiotherapy, and will be monitored for the next 24-48 hours," it added.

The 25-year-old striker took part in Real's humiliating 5-0 loss away to arch-rivals Barcelona on Monday. The injury means he may be forced to miss Real's next league match on Saturday against

Valencia.

Ronaldo, the 2008 FIFA World Player of the Year, has started in all 13 league matches this season as well as all five Champions League matches, having scored a total of 18 goals.

Real are in second place in the league with 32 points, two fewer than Barcelona, following their loss to the Catalan side.

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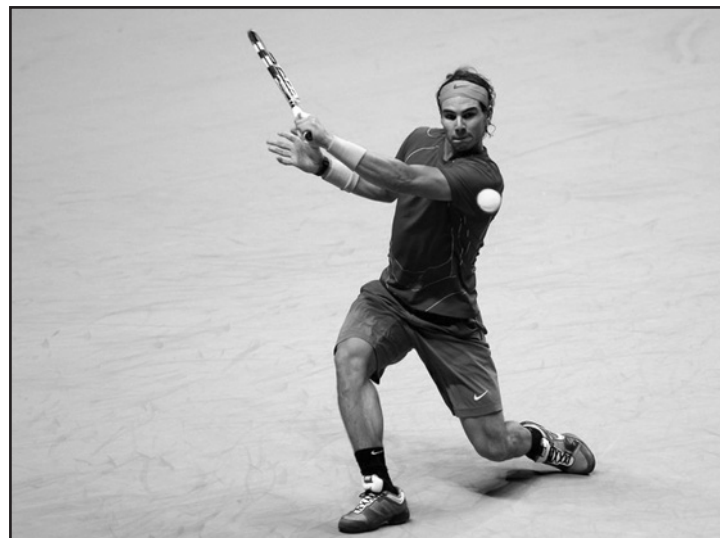
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Nadal tops ATP world rankings



PARIS (AFP) - Rafael Nadal has finished the year firmly atop the world rankings despite losing to Roger Federer in the ATP Tour Championship final in London on Sunday.

The Spaniard has 12,450 points, 3,305 ahead of Federer whom he replaced at the top after winning the French Open and Wimbledon during the summer. Nadal went on to win the US Open, while Federer took the year's first Grand Slam title in Australia.

Andy Murray, meanwhile, moved back above Robin Soderling to fourth place on the back of his run into the semi-finals in London.

Nadal and Federer have filled the year-ending top two spots in the world rankings since 2005.

World Top 20:-

- | | | |
|-------------------------|------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Rafael Nadal (ESP) | 12,450 pts | 5760 (+1) |
| 2. Roger Federer (SUI) | 9145 | 5580 (-1) |
| 3. Novak Djokovic (SRB) | 6035 | 6. Tomas Berdych (CZE) |
| 4. Andy Murray (GBR) | | 3955 |
| | | 7. David Ferrer (ESP) |
| | | 3735 |
| | | 8. Andy Roddick (USA) |
| | | 3665 |
| | | 9. Fernando Verdasco (ESP) |
| | | 3240 |
| | | 10. Mikhail Youzhny (RUS) |
| | | 2920 |
| | | 11. Jürgen Melzer (AUT) |
| | | 2785 |
| | | 12. Gaël Monfils (FRA) |
| | | 2485 |
| | | 13. Jo-Wilfried Tsonga (FRA) |
| | | 2345 |
| | | 14. Marin Cilic (CRO) |
| | | 2300 |
| | | 15. Nicolas Almagro (ESP) |
| | | 2160 |
| | | 16. Mardy Fish (USA) |
| | | 1991 |
| | | 17. Ivan Ljubicic (CRO) |
| | | 1965 |
| | | 18. Sam Querrey (USA) |
| | | 1860 |
| | | 19. John Isner (USA) |
| | | 1850 |
| | | 20. Marcos Baghdatis (CYP) |
| | | 1785 |

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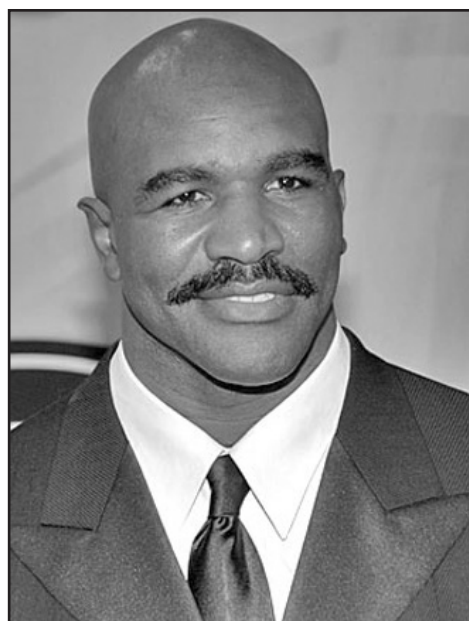
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Evergreen Holyfield set to fight on, aged 48



Nielsen on March 5 2011 in Copenhagen in what will be Holyfield's 56th professional fight and he comes to Denmark with a record of 43 wins, 28 knock-outs, ten defeats and two draws.

Holyfield, dubbed the Real Deal, has beaten George Foreman, Larry Holmes, Riddick Bowe and Michael Morrer in his career, but has won only five of his last ten fights since 2002.

COPENHAGEN (AFP) - Former world heavyweight champion Evander Holyfield is set to return to the ring next March, at the age of 48, to take on Denmark's Brian Nielsen, three years his junior, in a battle of the veterans.

Holyfield, who has won the world heavyweight title four times in his career, last fought in April when he beat South Africa's Francois Botha in Las Vegas to win the World Boxing Federation's heavyweight title.

He turned 48 in October and will face Denmark's

In contrast, this will be Nielsen's first fight for eight years, but the Dane has plenty of experience and brings an impressive record of 64 wins from 66 fights with 43 knock-outs and just two defeats.

His last defeat was back in 2001 against Mike Tyson when he retired in the seventh round having been knocked down in the third.

His biggest success was 13 years ago when he beat Larry Holmes on points to win the IBO heavyweight title.

Wizards reserve draws one-game ban for shove

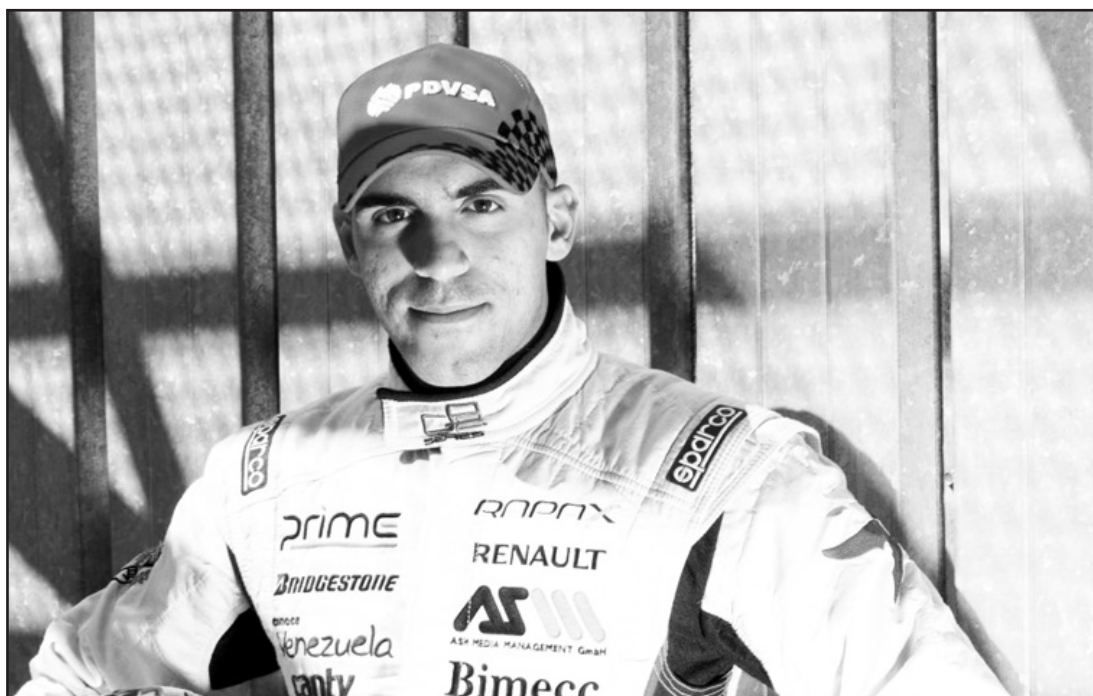
WASHINGTON (AFP) - Washington Wizards reserve center Hilton Armstrong was issued a one-game suspension by the NBA on Wednesday for shoving Miami's Joel Anthony during a layup attempt in a loss two days earlier.

Armstrong used two hands to push the Heat player

with 32 seconds remaining in the third quarter in Miami's 105-94 triumph over the Wizards.

Armstrong, who was whistled for a flagrant foul and ejected from the contest, was banished from playing in the Wizards' game later Wednesday at Toronto.

Williams sign Venezuela's Maldonado



PARIS (AFP) - Venezuelan Pastor Maldonado, who won this year's GP2 title, was on Wednesday named as Rubens Barrichello's teammate at Williams for the 2011 Formula One season, the British team announced.

The 25-year-old, who replaces German Nico Hulkenberg, cut his racing teeth in karts, following a tradition set by his father and uncles.

He won seven national titles, moving into grand prix racing in 2003 with his previous achievements including a win at Monaco in his debut GP2 season in 2007, a performance that caught the eye of Williams' Team Principal Frank Williams.

"He drove a masterful race at Monaco," commented Maldonado's new boss.

"Since then, he has regularly reminded us of his unquestionable talent with some skilful wins, particularly during this year's GP2 championship, taking an unsurpassed record of six suc-

cessive victories."

Maldonado got the nod to partner veteran Brazilian Barrichello after shining in four days of testing for Williams in Abu Dhabi last month.

He said: "2011 will be the first time in nearly thirty years that a Venezuelan has driven a Formula One car so I will be looking to get some good results in return for the support my country has given me to help get me to this position today."

The Williams team, who have lost several sponsors, were in need for a driver who could pay for his seat with Maldonado reported to be bringing in around 15million dollars.

The Williams team, once the dominant force in F1, won the last of their nine constructors championships in 1997 and finished sixth in the season just ended.

Barrichello, racing in his 18th season, garnered 47 points in 2010 whilst 23-

year-old Hulkenberg finished with 22 points but also secured the team's first pole position for five years in the penultimate race of the season the Brazilian Grand Prix.

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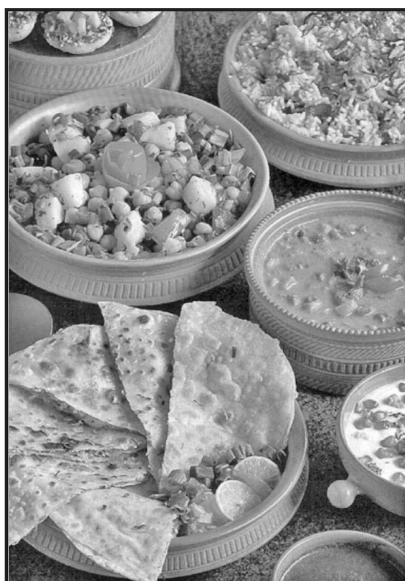
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Gambhir leads India to easy win over New Zealand



Guatam Gambhir

JAIPUR (AFP) - India's stand-in captain Gautam Gambhir cracked an unbeaten 138 off 116 balls to lift the hosts to an eight-wicket win over New Zealand in the second one-day international on Wednesday.

The left-hander's eighth one-day century enabled India to surpass New Zealand's challenging 258-8 with seven overs to spare in the day-night match at the Sawai Man Singh stadium in Jaipur.

The emphatic victory gave India a 2-0 lead in the five-match series after the hosts had won the first game in Guwahati on Sunday by 40 runs.

Gambhir put on 87 for the first wicket with Murali Vijay (33) and 116 for the second with Virat Kohli, who followed up his century in Guwahati with a fluent 64.

The skipper hit 18 boundaries in his fluent knock.

Gambhir led India as regular captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni was rested for the series along with other senior players including Sachin Tendulkar, Virender Sehwag, Zaheer Khan and Harbhajan Singh.

The third match will be played in Vadodara on Saturday.

Clijsters captures WTA Player of the Year award



award for supporting women's tennis off the court.

"It's really nice to win the Player of the Year award just one year after making a comeback," Clijsters said. "While I didn't think it would come so quickly, I am thrilled."

"This year I met a lot of new girls and it was very nice that so many of them had positive reactions to my daughter Jada as well."

ST. PETERSBURG (AFP) - Kim Clijsters, whose five titles in 2010 included her second US Open crown in a row, was named the WTA Player of the Year in awards voting announced by the tour on Wednesday.

The 27-year-old Belgian, who also won the award in 2005, won at Brisbane, Miami, Cincinnati and the season-ending WTA Championships in Doha as well as taking her third title at Flushing Meadows.

Just one year after making a comeback following a break to rest injuries and start a family, Clijsters was voted the top honor in a balloting of players as well as the Player Service

Justine Henin, who returned to the WTA last January, was voted WTA Comeback Player of the Year. She reached the Brisbane final, losing to compatriot Clijsters in her first tournament back, and was the Australian Open runner-up in her first major after a one-year break.

Henin won titles on Stuttgart clay and on grass at 's-Hertogenbosch.

Russian star Maria Sharapova won Humanitarian of the Year for her work as a United Nations Goodwill Ambassador. She visited Chernobyl and spent time with children affected by the disaster there.



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LPGA to end "female at birth" requirement

ORLANDO (AFP) - A requirement for players to be "female at birth" will be removed from the LPGA Tour constitution, commissioner Michael Whan said Wednesday.

Whan said players voted Tuesday night to make the change, which will be finalized in the coming weeks and would open the door to transgender players starting with the 2011 campaign.

The move came in the wake of a federal lawsuit filed last October in San

Francisco by Lana Lawless, a 57-year-old American who underwent a sex change operation five years ago to become a woman.

Lawless claimed the "female at birth" requirement violated California's civil rights laws and was seeking a ban on LPGA events in the state until the tour changed the policy.

The LPGA's first major championship every season, the two million-dollar Kraft Nabisco Championship, is staged in California.

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